

REMARKS

Pending Claims

Claims 1-45 are pending in this application. Claims 23, 30-37, and 42-45 are the elected claims.

Claims 23 and 30 are amended; New claims 42-45 are added. No new matter is presented by the addition of the new claims.

Claims 1-22, 24-29 and 38-41 are withdrawn as relating to non-elected subject matter. Withdrawal of these claims is subject to rejoinder of method claims, as appropriate, on allowance of linking composition claims.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction of the original claims into four groups:

Group I, claims 1-22 and 24-29 relating to methods of delivering a coated component to an animal;

Group II, claims 23 and 30-37, relating to coated compositions;

Group III, claims 38 and 39, drawn to methods for masking flavor using coatings; and

Group IV, claims 40 and 41, relating to methods for enhancing flowability.

Applicants hereby elect Group II, Claims 23 and 30-37 for prosecution at this time. New claims 42-45 are within this elected subject matter. This election is made subject to rejoinder of withdrawn claims as appropriate, upon allowability of the composition claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of this election and examination of the claims on the merits. If the examiner believes a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this application, or otherwise answer questions relating to this response, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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